

# THE CITY OF WESTON

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## **HURRICANE MATTHEW MEDIA RELEASE**

(October 5, 2016 – 10:00 AM) The National Hurricane Center predicts that Hurricane Matthew, with impact Broward County with Tropical Storm conditions (including sustained winds from 39 to 73 mph, higher wind gusts, heavy rain and isolated tornadoes) beginning early Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> and possibly Hurricane Force winds (sustained winds 74 mph or greater) from Thursday afternoon through Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. Squalls of rain and wind gusts may begin to impact our area as early as Wednesday. Isolated tornadoes are possible today through Thursday.

## **Potential Impacts**

Since outside preparedness activities become difficult once winds reach tropical storm force, all storm preparations should be finalized now. Damage to roofing and siding materials, along with damage to porches, awnings, carports, and sheds is possible. Some localized flooding is possible. Check storm drains near your home to make sure they are clear of debris.

## **Status of City Services**

All City of Weston administrative offices will be closed for business at 12 noon today - Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. City parks will remain open today for normal operating hours. All City facilities (including City Hall, Parks, and Community Center) will be closed on Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> and Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. Note that City parks may reopen on Friday, depending on weather conditions.

The City's Emergency Operations Center can be reached through the City Hall main line, 954-385-2000. Calls will be monitored until 5:30 PM today. The call center will be operating on Thursday and Friday, with hours to be posted.

A Special City Commission Meeting will be held today at 5:30 PM at the City of Weston Administrative Services Center, 17250 Royal Palm Boulevard, in the first floor conference room for the purposes of the City's declaration of a local state of emergency.

Garbage collection will take place on its regular operating schedule today in the City of Weston. Garbage service will be discontinued once sustained winds reach 39 mph, therefore collection on Thursday and Friday is not probable (changes in service will . **Please do not place items curbside unless it is your regular service day.** There will not be additional garbage pickups in areas that are not scheduled for service.

#### **Events**

The "A Penny At Work" Open House scheduled for Thursday, October 6th has been canceled. Page 2 – City of Weston Hurricane Matthew Media Release (October 5, 2016 – 10:00 AM)

### **Broward County Public Schools**

Schools are open today; however, all after school activities are canceled. Schools will be closed on Thursday, October 6th and Friday, October 7th.

#### **Updates**

Stay tuned to local media regarding the storm's impact on our area. Click here to view the advisories issued by the National Weather Service.

## **Preparations Should be Finalized Today**

Residents should be alert to storm information via local media sources, and should finalize preparations for the storm. If you have not already done so:

- Cover small and large windows with boards or storm shutters.
- Secure outdoor objects, including garbage and recycling carts, potted plants, lawn furniture, by bringing them indoors.
- Fuel your car.
- Make a "family emergency kit" containing first aid items, special medications, important papers, blankets, cooking equipment, flashlights, portable radio and extra batteries.
- Make preparations for the care and shelter of pets.
- Secure several days of water, food and clothing for every member of the family. Fill the bathtub with water to ensure an additional supply of safe water.

For information regarding evacuation shelters or special needs register The Broward County Hurricane Hotline is available at 954-831-4000 or dial 3-1-1. Visit <u>Broward.org/Hurricane</u> for countywide cancellations and closures.

Details and resources available at <a href="Westonfl.org/Hurricane">Westonfl.org/Hurricane</a>. City of Weston updates will be posted at <a href="www.westonfl.org/HappeningNow.aspx">www.westonfl.org/HappeningNow.aspx</a>. Follow the City of Weston on Twitter at <a href="www.twitter.com/CityofWeston">www.twitter.com/CityofWeston</a> for ongoing updates.

The City of Weston - 17200 Royal Palm Blvd, Weston, FL 33326 954-385-2000 • facsimile 954-385-2010 The Nation's Premiere Municipal Corporation<sup>sm</sup>